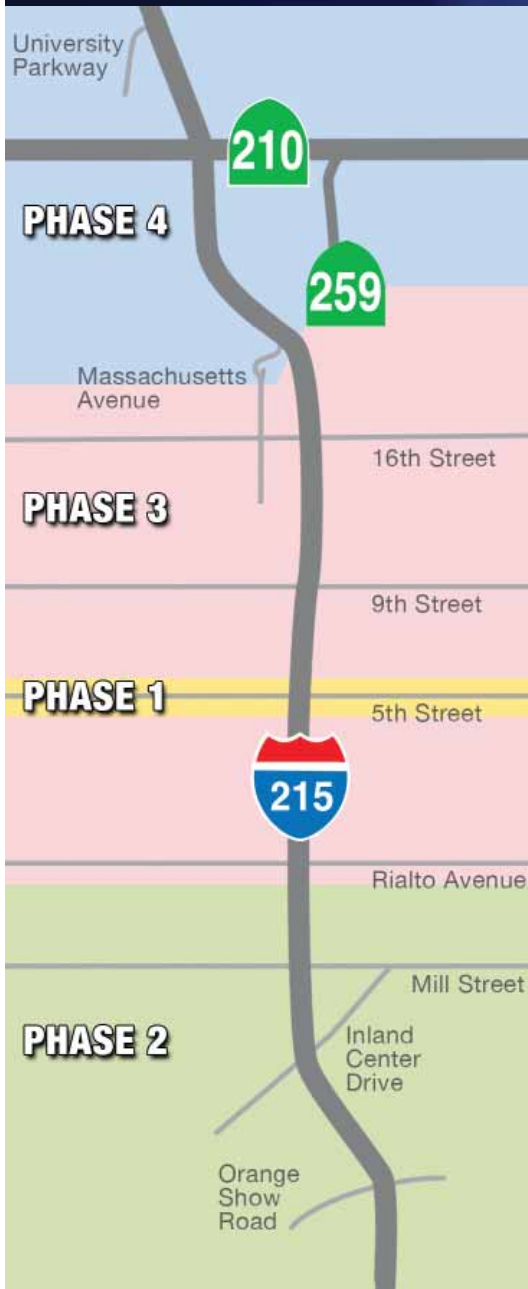




CRUISIN' THROUGH CONSTRUCTION

Interstate 215 Widening Project, San Bernardino

February 2010, Issue 37



Crews To Continue Highland Avenue Bridge Demolition

During the month of February, crews made significant progress demolishing the Highland Avenue bridge. With the northbound side complete, crews will need the following closures to complete the bridge demolition:

- Southbound I-215 near Highland Avenue: Monday, March 1 and Tuesday, March 2 from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m.

As a detour, drivers can exit 27th Street/Mount Vernon Avenue, turn right and travel south, turn left at Highland Avenue and re-enter the freeway at SR-259.

Traffic was reduced to one lane in each direction this past month, allowing drivers continual access to the opposite side of the freeway during construction. The new bridge

structure will be built one side at a time, similar to that of the 5th Street bridge. Work on this bridge is expected to be complete in approximately two years.

Crews will also construct new on- and off-ramps connecting to Highland Avenue. As part of the new configuration, drivers will exit near the current Muscupiabe Drive exit onto a new road that will run parallel to the freeway up to Highland Avenue.



Crews completed demolition of the northbound side of the Highland Avenue bridge.

Bridge Structure Work Continues at 9th Street, Baseline Avenue

Through the month of March, crews will continue pile-driving operations at the 9th Street and Baseline Avenue bridges. As part of this work, 40-foot steel beams will be driven into the ground to provide support for the new bridge columns and bridge ends.

For the weeks of March 1 and March 8, crews will focus on the Baseline Avenue bridge and will then move to complete operations on the 9th Street bridge the week of March 15.

Due to the potential for loud, repetitive noises, pile-driving operations will occur only during the daytime work hours, minimizing the impact to area residents, businesses and motorists. Sound levels will remain within that permitted by the City of San Bernardino.



Forty-foot steel beams are pounded into the ground, providing structure for the new 9th Street bridge.

Long Term and Permanent Closures



As construction continues on I-215, please note the following closures:

9th Street Bridge – Closed to drivers and pedestrians until late 2010.

4th Street On-Ramps – Eliminated and will be replaced with ramps directly on the 5th Street bridge.

Southbound I-215 Baseline Avenue Off-Ramp – Closed until the new ramps are constructed in Fall 2013.

Northbound Highland Avenue Off-Ramp – Closed permanently and reconfigured

with access to Highland Avenue via a collector road.

Northbound Highland Avenue On-Ramp – Closed long-term while crews construct the collector road.

Baseline Avenue Bridge – Reduced to one lane in each direction until the new bridge structure is completed in Fall 2011.

Highland Avenue Bridge – Reduced to one lane in each direction until the new bridge structure is completed in Spring 2012.

Safety is Our #1 Priority

With construction spanning the entire corridor, SANBAG and Caltrans reminds drivers to please pay close attention to the road and construction areas as they travel through the City.

Since crews work in close proximity to the traveling public, we recommend that drivers slow down as they approach the work area. Until construction is completed, please note that lane and ramp configurations may change as crews work to widen the freeway.

Due to many students walking near construction zones to get to and from school, SANBAG and Caltrans are bringing the safety message to area schools.

Campus administrators can schedule safety assemblies that include interactive components, reminding students of how to stay safe near construction zones. Safety tips such as not riding bikes, skateboards, scooters or walking pets near coned off areas are shared with children during a fun and educational presentation.

If your school would like to schedule a safety presentation, please contact us using the project helpline at (877) 215-NEWS.



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511

Or visit:
www.IE511.org



Businesses Turn Out to Learn More About the I-215 Widening Project

Caltrans and SANBAG hosted a meeting on February 9 to strengthen communication with area businesses and address questions to help minimize construction impacts. Approximately 30 owners and managers attended to learn more about the final stages of the I-215 Widening Project.

Following a short presentation outlining the status of the project, attendees had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with project engineers and other knowledgeable staff to ask specific questions about the construction.

Attendees were able to view 3-D models detailing work planned from Rialto Avenue to the south and University Parkway to the north, as well as roll-up maps of the entire project.

All businesses are welcome to attend our monthly business meetings, which are held every third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. at the Caltrans Annex Building at 655 West Second Street in San Bernardino.



Business owners and managers get a 3-D look at the final configuration planned for I-215 at a business meeting held in February.

Caltrans and SANBAG also offer businesses one-on-one update presentations. If you are interested in having a project representative give a presentation to your employees, please call the project helpline at (877) 215-NEWS.

What to Expect in March

- Paving on Mill Street
- Bridge structure work on new Highland Avenue bridge
- Pile driving operations near 9th Street and Baseline Avenue bridges



The I-215 Widening Project is a partnership among San Bernardino Associated Governments, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the City of San Bernardino.

Project Questions?

For questions or to request a presentation about the widening of Interstate 215, call the toll-free helpline, 1-877-215-NEWS.

The I-215 Widening Project is now on Twitter. Follow us @215NEWS.

